

## MISCELLANEOUS.

*Description of a new rapacious Bird in the Museum of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.* By JOHN CASSIN.

*Cymindis Wilsonii*, nobis. ♂. Body above entirely dark brown, palest on the head, beneath white; every feather from chin to under tail-coverts crossed by several bars of bright rufous chestnut, and these colours extending upwards into a collar around the neck; fourth, fifth and sixth primaries longest and nearly equal, external webs nearly black, internal webs of outer primaries white at base and for nearly half their length, the remaining part reddish inclining to chestnut, every primary (on its inner web) having two irregularly-shaped black marks and tipped with black. Tail of the same colour as the back but paler, white at base, and crossed by about four broad bars which are nearly black, the second bar from the tip accompanied by a narrow, rather indistinct bar of rufous; tip of tail narrowly edged with white. Bill very large, (larger than in any other species of this genus,) yellowish white, inclining to bluish horn-colour at base.

♀. Body above entirely slate-colour, palest on the head, beneath barred with the same, the bars having a ferruginous tinge.

Total length of mounted specimen, from tip of bill to end of tail, 17 inches.

*Hab.* Island of Cuba.

The two specimens here described were presented to the Academy by its esteemed member, Richard C. Taylor, Esq.

The bill in this species is very large in proportion to the size of the bird, and it agrees moreover tolerably well with the *written* description of *Falco magnirostris*, Gmelin; so does the young *Cymindis uncinatus*, Illig. All authors however, except Dr. Latham, clearly understand the *F. magnirostris* to be the bird figured in Enl. 464, which is a common South American species of the genus *Astur*.

Dr. Latham, in his article on *F. magnirostris*, Gen. Hist. vol. 1. p. 282, gives a description of a bird suspected by him to be the species intended by Gmelin, which applies very well to *Cymindis cayanensis*, Gm., in young plumage, but not to *C. Wilsonii*.

I have named this species in honour of Dr. Thomas B. Wilson, as a slight tribute to his merits as a man, and his munificence as a patron of zoological science.—*Silliman's Journal for Sept.* 1847.

*On the Development of the Echinidæ.* By Dr. DUFOSSÉ.

The author adds some further facts to the observations previously communicated\* relative to the development of the *Echinus* during the second period of its embryonal life, that is to say, from the moment of the escape of the larva from the egg to that when it becomes fixed. Between the sixth and twelfth day after its escape from the egg, a considerable quantity of agglomerated globules, forming a conical mass around the mouth, become apparent. A cavity is soon produced in the centre of this mass, and shortly afterwards the intestinal canal becomes evident and is seen to grow gradually longer. At the same

\* See p. 282 of the April Number for this year.